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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Michael A. AVENI, et al.

Serial No. 09/991,265 /

Filed: November 15, 2001

For: FOOTWEAR SOLE WITH A STIFFNESS  
ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM

Group Art Unit: 3728

Examiner: TBD

Docket No. 005127.00078

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JAN 17 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

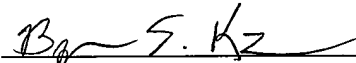
Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a), applicants submit the documents cited on the attached PTO-1449 form and respectfully requests that the Examiner consider these documents.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that no fees are due for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. If a fee is required, however, the Commissioner is authorized to debit Deposit Account Number 19-0733.

Applicants respectfully request that the documents cited on the attached PTO-1449 form be made officially of record, and that a listing of the documents appear on the face of any patent that may issue from this application.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Byron S. Kuzara  
Registration No. P-51,255

Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.  
1001 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
Telephone: 202-508-9100

Dated: January 11, 2002